

SEP. 12 1924

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**FAST AND FEARLESS**

Unpublished photoplay ~~in 16mm reels~~

Directed by Richard Thorpe

Author of the photoplay (under section)  
Artclass Pictures Corporation of N.Y.

SEP 12 1924

**"FAST AND FEARLESS"**

**Synopsis**

Pedro Gomez, notorious Mexican bandit and outlaw, with his gang of men, again rides into the little town of Tipton and makes up his mind, which is owned by Judge Brown and his daughter, Mary.

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Before making his getaway, Gomez is greatly interested in Mary, which causes Mary much anxiety.

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Mary's first thought after Gomez's latest capture is to telephone her fiancé, Bill, who is the owner of the town.

**CAST**

time in going to the scene of action. The town is owned by Judge Brown and Sheriff Hawkins in the center of the town.

"LIGHTNING" BILL LEWIS . . . . .	BUFFALO BILL, JR.
Mary Brown . . . . .	Joan Arthur
Judge Brown . . . . .	William Turner
Pedro Gomez . . . . .	George Magrill
Captain Duerta . . . . .	Julian Rivero
Blanca . . . . .	Baily Barrye
Fatty Doolittle . . . . .	Kewpie King
Gonzales . . . . .	Steve Clemento
Sheriff Hawkins . . . . .	Victor Allen.

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handcuffed and taken to jail, shortly to pay the penalty for his long career of crime.

#### **Synopsis**

Bill arrives greatly relieved to find Mary safe, and learns in jail that Pedro Gomez, notorious Mexican bandit and outlaw, with his gang of men, again rides into the little town of Solden and holds up the bank, which is owned by Judge Brown and his daughter, Mary.

Before making his get-away, Gomez is greatly impressed with Mary, which causes Mary much anxiety and fear.

Mary's first thought after Gomez's latest escapade is to telephone her fiancé, Bill, who is the owner of the nearby ranch. He has no time in coming to the scene of action. Upon hearing the news, Judge Brown and Sheriff Hawkins in the middle of the town, the sheriff

says he will round up a posse and start out in pursuit of Gomez, immediately. Bill hearing this asks the Sheriff to make him a deputy and to allow him to pursue Gomez, then telling them he has a double reason to get Gomez now. The Sheriff agrees, and Bill starts out, assuring Mary that he will not be late for that eventful day, Thursday, which is the day of his and Mary's wedding.

In the meantime Gomez and his gang have reached their camp in some nearby hills.

Bill finds their trail and in the dead of night sneaks into camp and hides himself on top of a ledge where he overhears their conversation. He there learns that Gomez has already gone back to Solden to kidnap Mary. Bill hurriedly leaves in an attempt to overtake Gomez and prevent the kidnapping.

Judge Brown and the Sheriff, sitting on the porch talking, are startled as they hear someone prowling around in back of the house and, creeping cautiously toward the rear, they see Gomez opening Mary's bedroom window in an attempt to kidnap her. Gomez is overpowered by the two

men, handcuffed and taken to jail, shortly to pay the penalty for his long career of crime.

Bill arrives greatly relieved to find Mary safe, and Gomez in jail. Nevertheless, Mary does not feel entirely free from danger with Gomez so near even though in jail. Bill comforts her and tells her he will stay at the hotel until Gomez has paid the penalty.

Gomez not having returned to camp, his men fear for his safety and that night ride to town and up to the jail, where they overpower the guard, "Patty"; take his keys and release Gomez from jail.

Gomez out of jail, immediately rides up to the house and at the point of a gun commands the Judge to give him a license for him and Mary. As Gomez leaves with Mary, a shot is fired at him and Gomez fires and hits him in the shoulder.

Bill, across the street in the hotel, hears the shot and rushes out just in time to see one of Gomez's men about to lift the unconscious Mary to a place on the saddle behind the bandit leader. Bill fires and hits Gomez in the arm, causing him to drop Mary. Gomez and his gang fearful of capture leave the girl and ride out hurriedly while Bill picks up Mary and takes her into the house where he finds her father has not been seriously wounded.

In the meantime, Gomez and his gang have fled across the border. Bill trails Gomez across the border and as he rides along and comes to the top of a hill he hears firing, and upon reaching the summit he looks down the valley below and sees an uneven fight in progress between two men, whom he recognizes as Mexican Rurales which organization is the mounted police of Mexico, and a group of bandits who have completely surrounded the two Government men. Bill seeing that they cannot hold out much longer, and always being ready and willing to take a hand in an uneven fight on the side of the under-dog, he immediately sets himself



Bill rides into the little valley and begins to working on a plan of action. He finally dismounts and leads his horse up behind some rocks. He takes his carbine from his boot and his son-shooter from his holster and wedges them securely between a couple of small rocks, points them toward the bandits who are by this time beginning to close in. He ties a string to the triggers of the two wedges guns and running back ties them to the bit of his pet horse, Kelly, and at the same time tells Kelly he is to pull his head at the time he gives the signal, the understanding of which Kelly apparently in true horse sense understands.

Bill then draws his two six-shooters and goes up among the boulders again fires from one place and then another or seven yards or so and at the same time gives Kelly the signal to pull his head as directed. Bill keeps this up for a few minutes and there is as he had planned to have the bandits believe, a number of gunned men come to the assistance of the ambushed rurales. Believing themselves outnumbered, they immediately withdrew and rode away. Bill sees this, mounts and waves to the two rurales who are overjoyed at this unexpected turn of events. Bill then rides down the hill toward them.

The two rurales are much surprised as well as amused to find that all this fire has been caused by only Bill and his horse. Then Bill explains to the ~~captain~~ Captain and his sergeant who were the two ambushed men, that he has come across the border to capture Gomez, the notorious Mexican bandit. Captain Duerta then tells him he also has been trying to catch this bandit, in fact, was just at that time being ambushed by some of Gomez's men. They then after discussing matters decide to join forces to capture the outlaw and Bill decides that he will go unarmed into the nearby town which is apparently the headquarters of the outlaw and see if he can find out something as to where Gomez is hiding.

Bill rides into the little Mexican village of Pecala the inhabitants of which apparently make up most of Gomez's forces and unconsciously Bill is spied upon from every doorway and window. He comes to a cantina and ~~where~~ seats himself at a table, orders a drink. Gonzales, Gomez's lieutenant, having seen Bill enter the town, and not knowing him, but believing him to be there for no good, decides that he will get him into conversation and goes over to Bill's table. Bill in his good-natured way, invites him to sit down and have a drink. As the girl who serves them brings Gonzales' something to drink which is not much to his liking, he becomes enraged and throws it in her face whereupon Bill immediately ~~he~~ resents the insult by knocking Gonzales down and the two immediately engage in a furious fist fight, ~~knocking over~~ tables and ~~knocking~~ pottery, and just as Bill has his opponent ~~down~~ ~~himself~~ set upon by four or five of Gonzales's gang ~~who~~ ~~they~~ in a fist and fist encounter and after knocking seven down he manages to free himself and escape.

Gonzales rises to his feet and orders his men to capture Bill. A very thrilling chase after Bill takes place from door-way to door-way and from balcony to balcony. As Bill comes upon his pursuers around a corner, he disposes of them in a manner that shows even under such stringent circumstances he still has his sense of humor left.

During the chase from a small doorway he is handed a note by the girl whom he befriended a short time ago, which note says that if he can get word to Captain Duerta to tell him that Gomez is hiding in the small house at the end of the street and is threatening her, she being apparently Captain Duerta's sweetheart.

Bill finally escapes and rides back to his place of meeting with Captain Duerta, ~~gives~~ gives him the note and together they set out toward the town with daring disregard to trap the bandit leader in his lair.

They near the small house at the end of the street and upon creeping into it they find Captain Duerta's sweetheart, Blanca, being held captive by Gomez. As they quickly force in the door Gomez wheels with drawn gun but Bill being quicker on the draw, manages to shoot the gun from the bandit's hand. Coming up to Gomez face to face, Bill asks him if he knows him, to which Gomez replies, "Frank Lewis." Bill says no, "But I am his brother who died from your knife wound." ~~Bill~~ Gomez breaks away and rushes for the door and before he can be intercepted he has called for help. They manage to drag him back and tie him to a chair but realize his call has been heard and soon find themselves attacked from all sides of the house.

Bill realizes they cannot last long and decides ~~he will break thru~~ them in the darkness to bring Capt. Duerta ~~back~~. He sneaks out but finds every avenue of escape ~~closed~~. He finally comes to the bank of a small ~~creek~~.

Quietly entering it he floats down with only his nose showing and due to the darkness, manages to float under the small foot-bridge on top of which is a guard posted without attracting the ~~sentinel~~. Thus thru he starts out across the country to the fort, going thru thickets and brush, he finds himself apparently stopped by a deep canyon which there is no apparent possible means of crossing and realizing the desperate need for speed and not time to go across it he finds on the edge a tall eucalyptus tree. Climbing up the tree which hangs out over the dizzy depths of the canyon he manages to bend it down with his weight until he is able to drop with safety on the other side. Rushing on he finally comes to the fort gathers the troops and together they start for Pecala. He arrives in time, fortunately, and the approach of the troops causes the bandits to flee, thus saving the lives of his two Mexican friends and preventing the release of the bandit leader.

The next morning finds Bill with his captive securely bound on his horse starting out from the Mexican town amidst the cheers of his

Bill-meaning friends the two rurales, who tell him that while the Mexican Government says that Uncle Sam cannot come into Mexico and take back a Mexican whether he is good or bad, the Captain says that his (the Mexican Government) does not say anything about Bill Lewis coming across the border, and taking back the bandit Gomez of whom Mexico will be well rid.

Bill approached the little town of Solden, smilingly realizing that he has accomplished his quest and also happy in the belief that it is the morning of Thursday which is the day of days for Mary Brown and himself.

After delivering his captive to the sheriff who indicates that he is mighty sure he won't get away this time, Mary is heard and her father in front of the bank, the certificate which Gomez had forced the Judge to sign out for the bandit and Mary at the time of his attempted kidnapping. This certificate Bill had taken from Gomez at the time of his capture. He hands it to the Judge with the timely remark that there is no use wasting it just because one name is wrong. The Judge greatly appreciating the humor of the situation proceeds to change the name of the certificate whom we find on Bill and Mary, alone, realizing that all their fears for the present at least are over.

THE END



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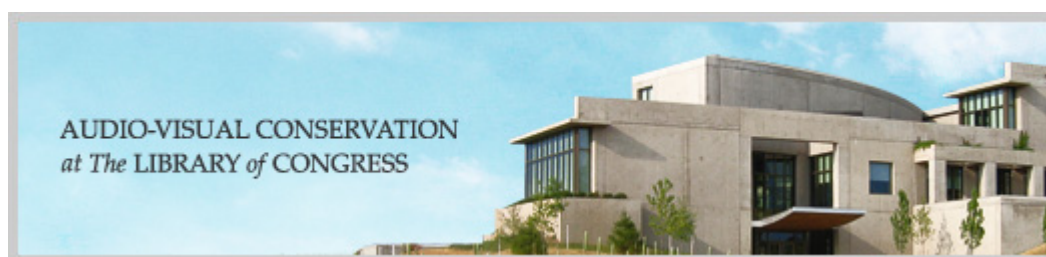
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